

Some extraordinary "spiritual manifestations" have recently been witnessed by Mr. Thompson and Mr. Britton. "Great will make!"

P.S. What about the Bradman's meeting at Chicago? Has it been or is it postponed?

Roxbury, Jan. 14, 1867.

My dear Wendell:

The long expected China tea set, (intended by Harry as a Christmas present to your mother,) of beautiful pattern and workmanship, was received by us on Saturday evening, without injury of any kind, and gave us all a great deal of pleasure. The whole cost to Harry will be about thirty-three dollars, including duties and transportation. We shall use it sparingly, of course. If no damage befall it, Fanny ~~can~~ have it for her heirloom, after the bodies of father and mother are shattered, and turned to clay.

Enclosed is a long and extremely well written ^{letter} from Frank, also received ~~from~~ on Saturday. It is full of interesting particulars, ^{especially} ~~particularly~~ in regard to our German relations and the Christmas gifts so handsomely bestowed upon Fanny and Frank. It is

remarkable with what epistolary facility the latter uses his pen. Occasionally, you and Lucy must send a joint letter to the dear ones abroad, avoiding double postage as far as practicable. Each weekly letter costs nearly half a dollar. On what ground should a half ounce or less of letter paper cost ten times as much as other articles of transportation? What has become of the "ocean penny postage" scheme?

William got a letter from you on Saturday, in which you tell us that, in consequence of the absence of Lucy and her mother in Philadelphia, you, and Mr. McKim, and Charley, are going to be your own cooks and providers. I dare say you will get along very comfortably. It is astonishing how simply and satisfactorily one can provide for his own wants when deprived of (his) "help"! Let us know, in due time, the result of the experiment. In the end, of course, you will find that "it is not good for the man to be alone," and so will rejoice when the absent ones return.

We are thinking of changing our "help" as soon as practicable. Perhaps (as it relates to cooking) it may be "out of the frying-pan into the fire."

You must indeed have been shocked at the intelligence of the comparatively sudden death of John Ritchie's young wife. I pity him, poor fellow; all the more because the future is all a blank to him, and the "life beyond" is ~~to him~~ quite unsubstantial. Apparently, he seems unable to believe that
"Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul."

You say that you "give up looking for good news from home: it is an unvarying tale of pains or blues." Be not despairing: already, so far as your mother is concerned, I am happy to report progress. She is looking uncommonly well, and has much improved in her spirits and bodily condition—owing to the manipulation and magnetism of Miss Andrews and the cheerful company of Miss Wiggins. My arm is becoming increasingly painful: but—patience!

Ms. A. 1. 1 v. 7, p. 27A

It is not improbable that the arm bone is becoming soft and porous, for want of general vitality of the system. If so, it will indeed be a serious matter. It is an extraordinary case of prolonged inflammation. It still robs me of a great deal of sleep, and makes all my nights very restless.

I thank you for your suggestions about the impeachment of the President, and in return will venture to express the hope that, now that its consideration has been submitted to the ~~consideration of the~~ Judiciary Committee by the almost unanimous loyal vote of the House, the Nation will refrain from any expression concerning those who favor it, and ^{who} sincerely believe it to be imperatively called for, that may look like sneer or disparagement. I have not liked the tone of ~~the~~ ^{the Nation's} ~~articles~~ articles concerning it. It is a question about which there may be and is an honest and an equally patriotic ^{share} difference of opinion: let there be no ~~dis~~ on either side.

Your ever loving Father.

Send Frank's letter as usual.